

Interview with the Mayor of Kingston, 26th February 2020

On Wednesday 26th February, the Mayor of Kingston, Councillor Margaret Thompson visited our school. She was shown around by Callum and Elli, our Head Boy and Head Girl. After that, she was interviewed by our Eco-Warrior team: Phoebie, Sophie C, Grace R, Joseph and Dylan. Finally, she came to Assembly to talk to the children about her work as Mayor and her Mobile Mop Up campaign to raise money for two local charities, Oxygen and the Kingston Council for Independent Living.



Here is an extract from the interview she gave to our Eco-Warrior journalists.

Phoebie: Is your car eco-friendly?

Mayor: Yes, it's as eco-friendly as it can be – it's completely electric and it's an average, family-sized car not a big limousine. My own car is eco-friendly too.

Sophie: Do you enjoy your charity work?

Mayor: I really want to help local charities that don't always get lots of attention. Raising money for these small, local organisations will really help them to do good work for people in our neighbourhoods.

Raising money through recycling mobile phones will stop them going into landfill and will also stop children and young people who are currently having to work in mines or factories having to do work that no child should be forced to do.



Joseph: How do your charities look after the environment?

Mayor: The Oxygen shop in New Malden is environmentally friendly. It takes in items like electrical goods and cushions that other charities can't take in. KCIL are as environmentally friendly as they can be – they reduce, reuse and recycle.

Grace: Why did you want to help these charities?

Mayor: It's really important to help young people who may be having a tough time – Oxygen are always there to help. I used to be a school nurse so I know how important it is to give children and young people good support. It's also important to make sure that people with disabilities are able to get the help and services they need.



Dylan: When did you decide to use the phone recycling campaign?

Mayor: I met the people at Genuine Solutions UK – they are based in Chessington – and we hit it off immediately. It's been really enjoyable to work with them. I can see that you are a really caring school and I am so pleased that you want to help both the environment and the local charities.

Group: What is the most important thing about learning that you want us to remember?

Mayor: If you can read, you have the whole world open to you.



Group: Thank you very much for visiting us, Madam Mayor.

Mayor: It's been a pleasure. Thank you for inviting me.